

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-11

EB-07 SSC-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /086 W

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P R 261229Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5781

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0534

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: POPULAR DEMOCRATS WON'T SEEK COMMUNIST EXPULSION

REF: LISBON 0525 (DTG 241316Z JAN 76)

SUMMARY: IN JAN 25 MEETING OF ITS NATIONAL COUNCIL, POPULAR
DEMOCRATIC PARTY DECIDED NOT TO REOPEN QUESTION OF COMMUNIST
POSITON IN AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT. PPD APPROVED GUIDELINES
FOR AFM-PARTIES PACT NEGOTIATIONS THAT WUOLD RELEGATE REVOLUTION-
ARY COUNCIL TO SECONDARY, CONSULTIATIVE ROLE AFTER ELECTIONS
PPD ALSO ELECTED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE OF VARIOUS
CURRENTS IN PARTY. FINAL VACANT SUB-CABINET POSITION HAS BEEN
FILLED BY AN INDEPENDENT. END SUMMARY.

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1. PPD NATIONAL COUNCIL: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) DECIDED JAN 25 NOT TO REOPEN QUESTION OF COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT FOR BRIEF PERIOD REMAINING UNTIL ELECTIONS. COUNCIL ALSO DECIDED TO ACCORD HIGHEST PRIORITY TO ELECTIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND AGREED THAT FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES SHOULD GUIDE PPD NEGOTIATORS IN DISCUSSION OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) - PARTIES PACT:

-- NO DIRECT PARTICIPATION BY ANY "UNELECTED BODY" IN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION;

-- NO REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RCL) AUTHORITY TO RULE ON CONSTITUTIONALITY OF LAWS:

-- RC MUST AGREE TO ACCEPT ELECTION RESULTS;

-- RC SHOULD HAVE ITS COMPOSITION CLEARLY SPELLED OUT. NATIONAL COUNCIL ALSO ELECTED ITS 40-MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND DECIDED UPON AN EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS FOLLOWING ELECTIONS TO REVIEW PARTY STATUTES.

2. SA CARNEIRO TO BRUSSELS: PPD SECRETARY GENERAL SA CARNEIRO DEPARTED JAN 26 FOR THREE-DAY VISIT TO BRUSSELS WHERE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH EEC COMMISSION OFFICIALS INCLUDING PRESIDENT ORTOLI.

3. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR CULTURE NAMED: FINAL VACANT SUB-CABINET POSITION, SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR CULTURE, WAS FILLED JAN 25 WITH NOMINATION OF DR. DAVID MOURAO FERREIRA, A POLITICAL INDEPENDENT. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT, FERREIRA, A HIGHLY RESPECTED FORMER PROFESSOR OF LITERATURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LISBON, HAD SERVED AS MANAGING EDITOR OF CONSERVATIVE LISBON DAILY "O DIA".

4. EANES SPEAKS: IN COMMENTS TO JOURNALISTS JAN 25, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ANTONIO RAMALHO EANES MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:
-- PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY: RUMORS OF EANES CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT WERE "PURE SPECULATION."

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-- OTELO: PORTUGAL "OWES FORMER COPCON HEAD MAJ OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO DEBT OF GRATITUDE, AND THIS DEBT WILL BE PAID AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY." OTELO'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVENTS OF NOV 25, HOWEVER, CANNOT BE IGNORED.

-- REVOLUTION: "APRIL 25 WAS A BENCHMARK. IT OPENED A WAY. NOV 25 SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN THAT WAY. NOTHING MORE."

5. SA MACHADO DIES: MANUEL JOSE SA MACHADO, PROMINENT
SOCIALIST LEADER AND CLOSE CONFIDENT OF SOCIALIST SENATOR
MARIO SOARES, DIED JAN 25, APPARENTLY OF STROKE. SA MACHADO,
41, HAD LIVED ON THE LEADING EDGE OF PORTUGUESE POLITICS
SINCE THE APRIL 25, 1974 COUP. AT TIME OF HIS DEATH, SA
MACHADO WAS SERVING AS SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

6. COMMENT: PPD NATIONAL COUNCIL ENDORSED POSITIONS OF SA
CARNEIRO ON COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT AND ON
AFM-PARTIES PACT, (REFTEL). PPD POSITION ON PACT
WOULD RELEGATE RC TO A SECONDARY AND CONSULTATIVE ROLE FOLLOWING
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. THE NEW PPD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CONTAINS MIXTURE OF SA CARNEIRO LOYALISTS AND
REMAINING PARTY "LIBERALS" SUCH AS ASSISTANT "EXPRESSO"
EIDOR MARCELO REBELO DE SOUSA. DECISION TO CONVOKE EXTRA-
ORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS WAS ANOTHER GESTURE TO LIBERALS
DESIGNED TO ENSURE PARTY UNITY FOR ELECTIONS.
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